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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0005  
INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 8810  
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 6187  
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 0150  
RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 7371  
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 4418  
RUEHGE/AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN 0938  
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA 4751  
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 4361  
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 6145  
RUEHPO/AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO 0588  
RUEHQH/AMEMBASSY QUITO 7035  
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 1799

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 000248

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/11/2019

TAGS: ECON PGOV AGR BL

SUBJECT: BOLIVIA: NO INFORMATION ON CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON  
BIOSAFETY

REF: SECSTATE 11910

Classified By: Acting EcoPol Counselor Brian Quigley reasons 1.4b,d

¶1. (SBU) Emboff spoke with multiple representatives at the Bolivian foreign ministry and the phytosanitary agency SENASAG. Officials informed us that Bolivia is not a signatory to the Cartagena Protocol. They did not know if they had received invitations to participate in the upcoming Mexico City meeting, and they knew of no current plans for anyone from the Bolivian government to attend.

¶2. (C) In the past, the Bolivian government has been strongly opposed to genetic modification, and if they do participate, we can expect them to take an anti-USG stance. Because of the current bilateral difficulties, Post determined that engaging the Bolivian government on this issue would be more likely to radicalize their position than create any support for a more balanced proposal. For that reason, other than requesting information about attendance, Post did not raise the substance of this demarche with government officials.

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